Pradesh and the concerned Departments/Ministries of the Central Government.

Cleaning up the Balance Sheet of IDPL

*98 SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to take a series of measures to clean-up the balance sheet of indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL), as a prelude to its privatisation; and

(b) if so, what are these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) A communication has been sent to the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) intimating the following concessions/facilities for cleaning up the balance sheet of IDPL that the Government intends to provide to facilitate its privatisation through the induction of strategic partners:

(i) Conversion of Government loan into equity,

(ii) Waiver of interest/penal interest and guarantee fee by the Government of India,

(iii) Payment of outstanding statutory dues and funding of VRS.

BIFR has been requested to invite fresh proposals to explore the possibility of privatizing each of the units of IDPL (including the 100% owned subsidiaries) separately.

Railway Bridges in Karnataka

*99. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many railway bridges in Karnataka are in distress condition;

(b) whether Government have taken any action to replace them; and